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To the Voters,

OF THE

10TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT,

FELLOW-CITIZENS:

With much hesitation I have allowed myself to be announced as a candidate for Congress in the 10th Congressional District.

As I am unacquainted with a large number of the voters of the District, and no personal canvass can be effected, or is desirable, in the present state of the country, I trust that a short card will not be considered out of place.

In the absence of all ordinary political issues before the people, I have no claims to put forth except an entire devotion to the cause of our suffering country.

All who know me, know how long and earnestly I have contended for the principles which are now being fought for by our brave armies, the adoption of which, by the whole South, at an earlier date, it is now generally conceded, would have avoided much, perhaps all, of the suffering and bloodshed that have come upon us.

All know that at the very first call of the State, I took the field and served with the "Stonewall Brigade," until completely disabled by a painful and severe wound, which incapacitated me for the only service I desired to engage in during the war.

In suffering and devotion to the cause I yield to none, yet there are thousands of our brave men who have the same claim upon you, and I claim no advantage or precedence over any one of them.

Should it please you, fellow-citizens, to elect me as your Representative, I shall strive to discharge my duties as such honestly and faithfully.

The efficiency and comfort of the Army claims the first consideration of Congress and shall have my chief attention. Scarcely second in importance to that is the credit of the country, which must be upheld at any cost.

With a well sustained army of such troops as we have in the field, an untarnished public faith, and firm trust in the God of Battles, we have no need to fear the result.

I may add that I have not sought or desired this nomination, but have accepted it only at the urgent solicitation of friends whose opinions I respect, and, whatever may be the result of the election, I shall cheerfully submit to the will of the voters of the District.

WM. N. NELSON.

New [illegible], Va., April 8, 1863

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